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Redeemer University College

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# IMAGES

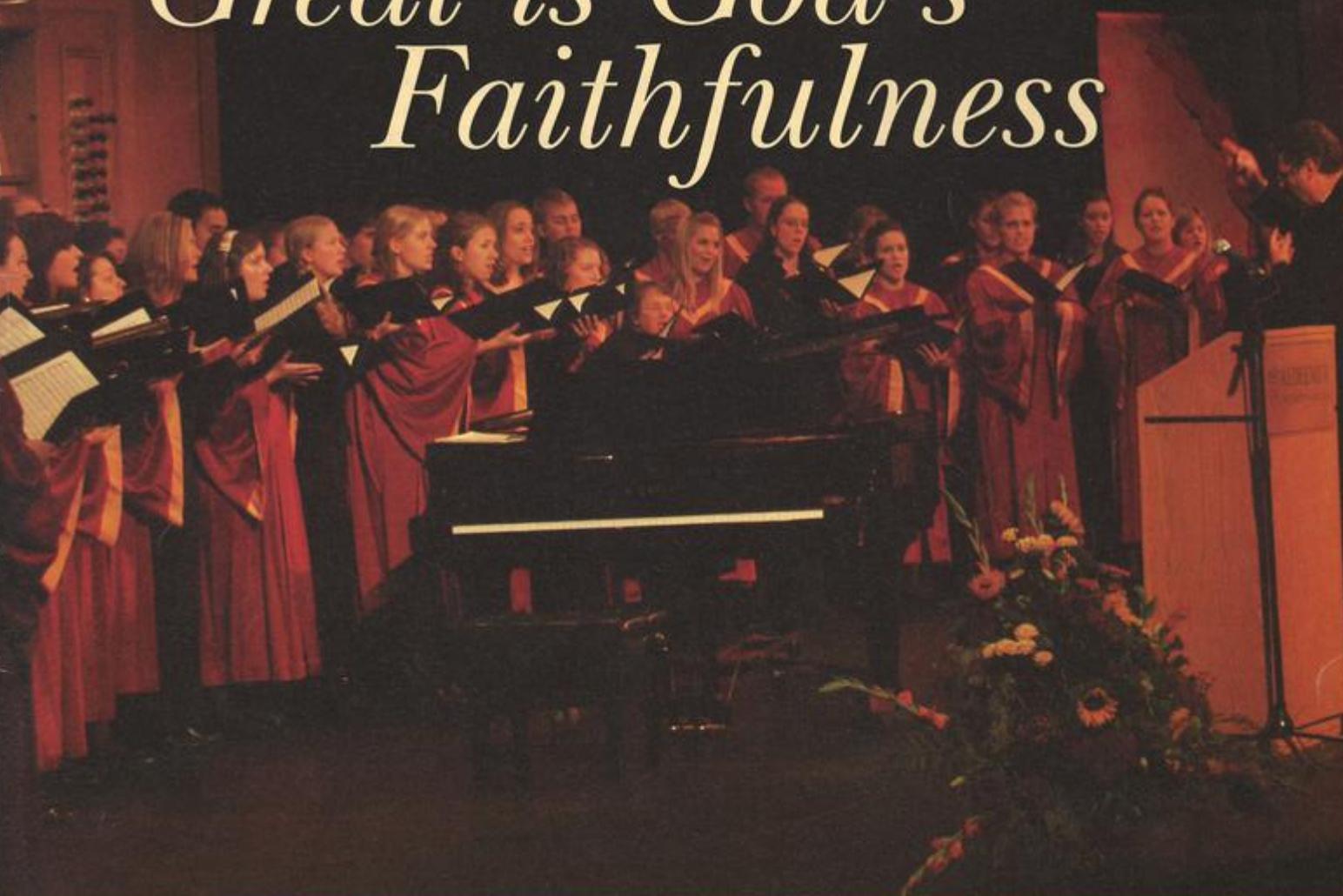
• DEC 19 2007

CELEBRATING

**25** YEARS

1982 - 2007

*Great is God's  
Faithfulness*



# PERSPECTIVE, *They Say, is Everything*



“ And, with the normal allowances for human foibles and warts, we can look back at the first 25 years of Redeemer and acknowledge the blessing of God in providing us dedicated visionaries who sacrificially went beyond the call of duty. ”

— Ray Pennings,  
Board Chair

Some might suggest that recognizing Redeemer's twenty-five years as a Christian university seems trivial when laid beside the almost 400 years of history, since individuals with Congregationalist connections formed Harvard in 1636, or even the almost 250 years since Reformed folk in New Jersey started Rutgers University in 1765. Historical perspective, however, is sobering. We feel small compared to the intellectual accomplishments of institutions with histories more storied than ours, but we also recognize that these institutions are no longer branded by the purpose and vision they started with.

The task of the Board of Governors is to focus on the long-term direction of Redeemer University College. Governance is distinct from administration. Our task is to hire leadership for the University, give them the resources they need to do their jobs well and to provide accountability while supporting them on behalf of the community we serve. And, with the normal allowances for human foibles and warts, we can look back at the first 25 years of Redeemer and acknowledge the blessing of God in providing us dedicated visionaries who sacrificially went beyond the call of duty. Not only is our 34 hectare campus a comfortable and functional home

for an educational community, the range of programs Redeemer offers and the reputation they have garnered is also impressive. The mostly favourable mention of Redeemer in the *Globe and Mail's* 2007 University Report Card is external validation of our accomplishments. But to rest on those laurels is to miss the point.

A Christian education is to engage the culture. Our students and scholars must confidently interact with our neighbours, challenge them with tough-minded thinking and honest arguments based on truth. That is a tradition that goes much deeper than Redeemer, Rutgers or Harvard. We can go back to the words of the Saviour who told us to love God with our hearts, our minds and our souls and to love our neighbours completely as well. Understanding God's world requires us to peel back to knowing God himself.

Most elites in our culture of “establishment unbelief” scorn the idea of one truth or one God. However, our mission is to teach and research in a way that is Scripturally-directed and “explores the relation of faith, learning and living from a Reformed Christian perspective.” It really is a mission to keep the “uni-” in university. And with God's help, we pray that this may be the defining perspective of Redeemer's future. ■

# WHAT'S INSIDE

Welcome to a special issue of *Images*. Throughout the year, we have been marking Redeemer's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

In the centre of the magazine, you will find an insert that tells the story of how Redeemer has experienced God's faithfulness through our first quarter-century. It also gives us the opportunity to share with you, our dedicated and generous support community, how we have kept our promise to provide a Christ-centred university education that furthers the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

We hope you will enjoy, and be encouraged by, reading where we have come from, where we are and where, with the Lord's blessing, we hope to go.

## 4 Campus News

Number of first year students rises; Redeemer grades well in *Globe and Mail*; 650 delegates from 150 countries meet at Redeemer; Foundation activities continue to support students.

## 9 Student News

Study and practice of prayer spurs call to action; Redeemer mourns loss of student leader.

## 11 Faculty News

Redeemer welcomes 4 new tenure-track faculty; summer science camp hosts budding crime scene investigators.

**Front Cover:** The Redeemer Concert Choir performs during the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations held at Redeemer University College on September 29.



## 14 Lectern-at-Large

Educating children at home and at school — one family's journey.

## 25 Alumni News

New Board gets to work; launch of new alumni-funded student support program; Homecoming celebrations marks end of era.

## 19 A Lasting Image

Redeemer's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary is the inspiration for a new set of banners in the Auditorium.

**EDITOR:** Tim Wolfert '87

**DESIGNER:** Petra Zantingh

**WRITER & COPY EDITOR:** Acacia Rose

**CONTRIBUTORS:**

Darlene Komadan, Ray Pennings,  
Deani Van Pelt

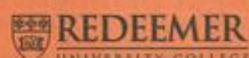
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Evan Macalpine

**EDITORIAL ADVISORY BOARD:**  
JD Alkema '96, Sharon Vandermeulen '89,  
Petra Zantingh

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to:

Redeemer University College  
777 Garner Road East  
Ancaster, ON L9K 1J4  
[images@redeemer.ca](mailto:images@redeemer.ca)  
Tel: 905.648.2131 x4292  
Fax: 905.648.2134  
[www.redeemer.ca](http://www.redeemer.ca)

# Off to a Good Start

**T**wenty-five years ago, Redeemer opened its doors and welcomed 97 students. Ten years later, 447 students were enrolled, and in 2002, 718 students graced the halls of the University. Today, Redeemer is home to 885 students, representing 900% growth in 25 years.

For 2007-08, Redeemer's enrolment stands at 818 Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) students. That number is down slightly from last year, which was expected since the so-called "double-cohort" graduated this past May. The number of new full-time students at Redeemer this year rose to 250, up from 242 last year.

A number of institutional changes – the 1998 degree change, the name change in 2000 and the approval to grant the Bachelor of Education degree in 2003 – have contributed to enrolment growth. But, according to Ms. Marian Ryks-Szelekowsky, Vice President of Enrolment and Student Development, a better understanding of the type of programs that Redeemer offers and an increased recognition of the quality of Redeemer's programs has also played a huge role: "Over time, preconceived notions and perceptions have slowly disappeared and we are being recognized for who we are."

Redeemer's Recruitment staff also play a large role each year in raising the awareness of Redeemer. "Our University Representatives are working very hard in an increasingly competitive environment to inform prospective students and their parents about what Redeemer has to offer," notes Ryks-Szelekowsky. ■

## Some other numbers on the 2007-08 student body:

- 250 - full-time students who are new to Redeemer
- 26 - percentage of new students who did not start directly after high school; they either took a year off before starting, are mature students, transferred from other colleges or universities, etc.
- 31 - part-time students in the Bachelor of Education program who have transferred from the Bachelor of Christian Education program
- 8 - provinces represented (missing Newfoundland and Labrador and Manitoba)
- 61 - percentage of new students who received an academic scholarship



## Marva Dawn returns to Redeemer

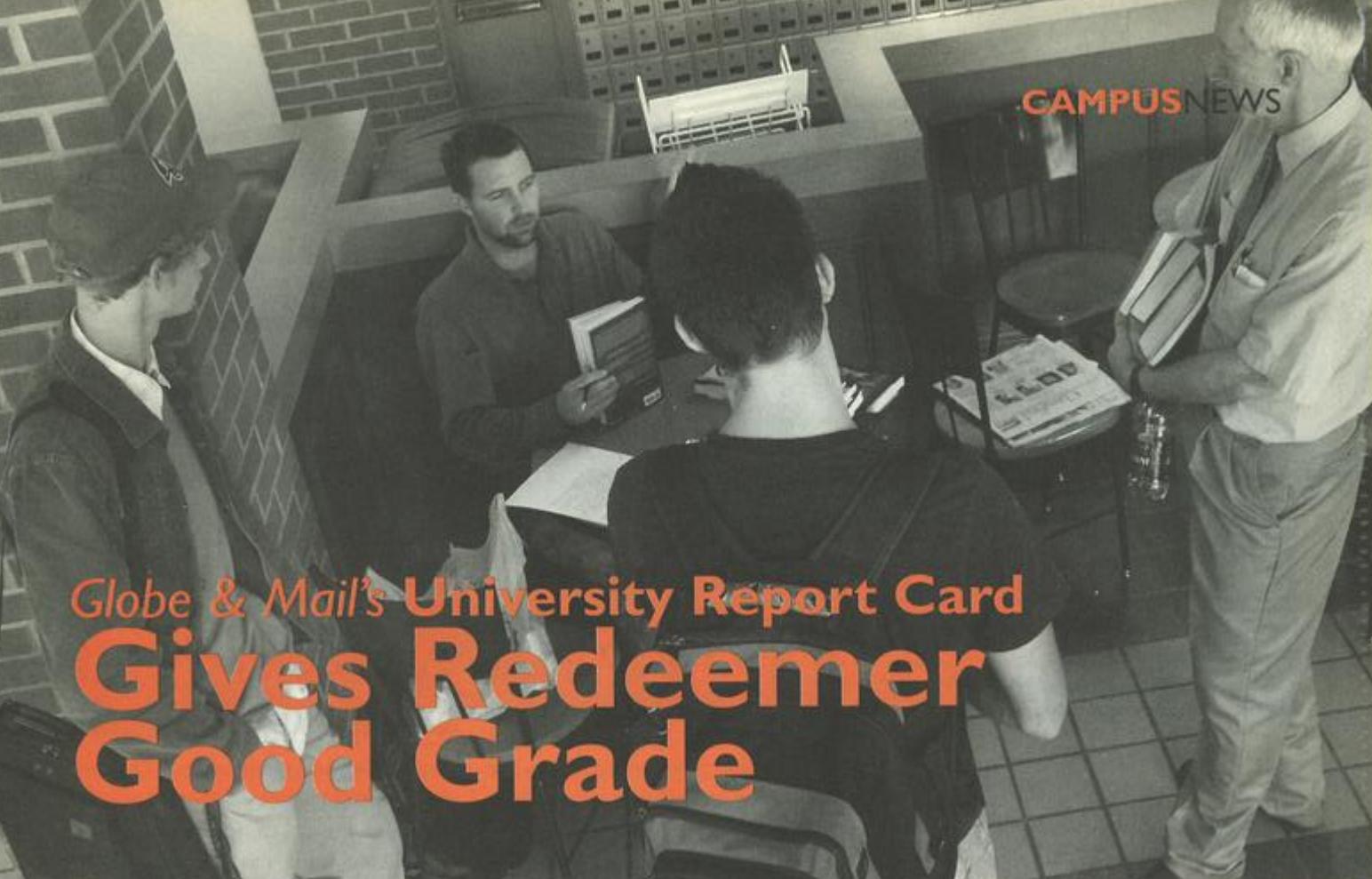
Internationally renowned theologian, author and educator Dr. Marva J. Dawn will be the keynote speaker at Redeemer's annual lecture series, *The World and Our Calling*, on Wednesday, January 16, 2008.

The theme for this year's Series, "Vocation and Cosmos: Our Calling in the World", draws on I Corinthians 8:4-6. Dr. Dawn will be giving three presentations that day:

- 11:00 am: **Cosmos: the Nature of our gods.**
- 3:00 pm: **Vocation: Recovering our Stolen Intimacy.**
- 7:00 pm: **Vocation: True Worship Every Second.**

Dr. Dawn was most recently at Redeemer for the 2002 Minister's Conference. She holds four master degrees and a Ph.D. in Christian Ethics and the Scriptures from the University of Notre Dame. Currently she teaches Spiritual Theology at Regent College in Vancouver, BC. An author of over 20 books, she is also part of Christians Equipped for Ministry, and speaks around the world at seminaries, conferences, churches and universities.

All three lectures are free and open to all. For more information, contact Ms. Marlene Raddatz at 905.648.2139 x4414. ■

A black and white photograph showing several students in a university hallway. In the foreground, a student in a dark jacket and light pants walks away from the camera. In the middle ground, two students are seated at a table covered with papers and books; one is looking down at his work while the other looks on. In the background, another student stands holding a stack of papers or books.

## Globe & Mail's University Report Card Gives Redeemer Good Grade

Redeemer University College earned an "A" in Overall Student Satisfaction in The *Globe & Mail's* University Report Card, released on October 16. The Report Card was based on student responses to a survey conducted by the *Globe and Mail* in cooperation with the Strategic Council of Canada.

Redeemer was also graded very well in several other categories, such as Student/Faculty Interaction. Emily Weening, a third-year student from Newmarket, ON, is in Dr. Russell Kosits' Psychology of Religion class. She values her interactions with Dr. Kosits because "he has the best balance of instructing course material and caring about students' lives, while maintaining a light and humorous attitude that keeps students relaxed and better equipped to learn."

For Dr. Kosits, Assistant Professor of Psychology, it is a natural outcome of the relationships he has developed. "It's pretty simple," he says, "I like my students!" He enjoys the "spontaneous interactions in

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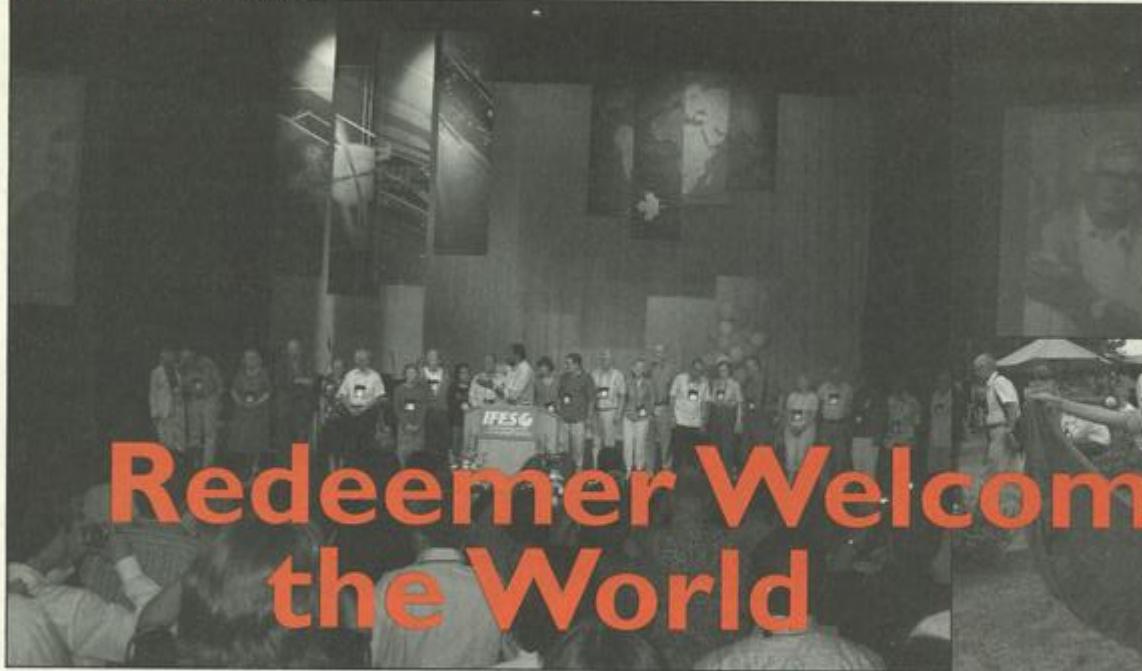
the hall and sharing a laugh or two during lectures." His students "possess an admirable maturity and humility which makes them a pleasure to work with." In addition, they seem to "earnestly desire a Christian perspective in their courses," which gives Dr. Kosits and his students a "shared passion and orientation toward our studies."

The results of the Report Card are encouraging since the information comes from students, the people who really matter. The high marks are a testimony to the academic work and student development at the University. "It is important that Redeemer delivers the kind of experience that students appreciate and from which they can grow not only academically, but also personally and spiritually," said President Cooper. "We are extremely pleased to be showing such strong progress in the key areas of academic life and of student sat-

isfaction." Erica Akers, a first-year student from Chatham, ON is certainly pleased with her experience thus far: "I couldn't be more satisfied with the sense of community here. I don't think I could place anything else above that."

Although overall the scores are high, nobody's perfect, and the students' responses identified a number of areas that need improvement. "We will continue working to better each student's experience. Listening to our students is key!" President Cooper said.

This was Redeemer's first year participating in the newspaper's sixth annual survey of student satisfaction. Fifty-three universities were graded by 43,222 Canadian university students who rated their experiences on a number of key criteria. Redeemer's full Report Card can be accessed at [www.globeandmail.com/education](http://www.globeandmail.com/education). ■



# Redeemer Welcomes the World

By Darlene Komadan

**R**edeemer University College and International Fellowship of Evangelical Students (IFES) began working together over four years ago to bring the IFES World Assembly 2007 to Redeemer, the largest single event that Redeemer has ever hosted. From July 11 to 19, Redeemer was the proud host to over 650 IFES delegates from 150 countries, as well as hundreds of volunteers and the IFES planning committee.

The common goal of the World Assembly is to broaden the future of global students and encourage their peers to spread the word of God. During the conference, IFES celebrated their 60th Anniversary with a cake decorated with flags from each country represented. Another celebration, Canada Day, was held on July 14 and showcased the cultural diversity of Intervarsity Canada, which sponsored the event. Over 900 people attended Canada Day, which featured worship, music, food and multicultural exhibits.

Since IFES was using the entire campus, Assistant Director of Campus Services, Yolanda Bax, worked to find facilities off-site to accommodate some of Redeemer's

regular summer programs, such as the Continuing Education program and Summer Rays Sports Camp. Ms. Bax acknowledges with appreciation, the co-operative spirit of many groups and individuals that contributed to the huge success of this international conference.

Redeemer faculty and staff extended their hospitality and shared their homes with delegates. Conference and Special Events Coordinator, Darlene Komadan, had the pleasure of sharing her home and a traditional Croatian meal with delegates from Croatia. French faculty spent time with francophones from around the world. Many of them agreed to be taped while reading a passage of Scripture and then recounting what life is like for Christians in their country. Dr. Thea Rusthoven commented on some of her interviews; "When I asked each one, whether from Madagascar, Cameroon, France or Martinique, what their greatest need was, I got the reply that it was Biblically-based leadership of all sorts...whether in the form of people or courses and books for seminarians, pastors, lay leaders, families, etc. Churches are growing so fast in Africa that leaders cannot be trained fast enough. As one way of answering that need, a pro-

fessional Christian translator from Quebec, who was attending the conference, agreed to translate Prof. Al Wolter's book, *Creation Regained*, into easily readable French, but we need to find the money to do this..."

Many of the delegates shared testimonies of their wonderful stay at Redeemer. Since many of them live in fear of being a Christian in a country that does not support their beliefs, they enjoyed Redeemer's peaceful and safe campus. Director of Campus Services, Doreen Gringhuis, commented that "Redeemer University College has been truly blessed as a community to be able to open our doors to the world and serve our brothers and sisters in Christ. We were privileged to experience God's workings and share in the makings of what many have witnessed as one of the 'best' World Assemblies ever."

Working with IFES was an exceptional experience of years of intricate planning and it was difficult to say final good-byes. The Redeemer community will fondly remember the summer of 2007 as the year the world came to Redeemer. ■

Darlene Komadan works in Redeemer's Campus Services Department as the Conference and Special Events Coordinator.

**REDEEMER FOUNDATION**  
STEPPING FORWARD IN FAITH  
**GOLF TOURNAMENT**

## Fore!...the Students

One hundred and thirty six golfers participated in the Redeemer Foundation's Second Annual Golf Tournament, held at Copetown Woods Golf Club on July 27. The participants enjoyed a great day of golf, which ended with a banquet that featured superb food and wonderful fellowship.

Best of all, \$44,000 was raised in support of the Redeemer Foundation's Scholarship Programs for students. Next year's tournament has already been booked. Mark your calendar for Wednesday, July 23, 2008, at Copetown Woods. More information will be available early in the new year. ■

Some of the staff and students involved in hosting the Redeemer Foundation Golf Tournament.

## Start Spreading the News...



Looking for an exciting way to support Redeemer students during the Victoria Day holiday next year? The Redeemer Foundation, in cooperation with Verstraete Travel & Cruises, will be sponsoring a group motor coach tour to fabulous New York City, from May 16–19, 2008.

Participants will travel back and forth in a luxury motor coach and spend three days on escorted tours, taking in sites, shopping and shows. Tickets to the Broadway show, "The Drowsy Chaperone," a harbour cruise, stops at Ground Zero and the United Nations are parts of the itinerary, but there is much more. Sunday morning is set aside for worship, either at Manhattan Church of Christ or at a local church of the participant's own choosing.

This is a very popular destination so book your tour early. For more information, please contact Verstraete Travel and Cruises at 1.800.405.6088. All net proceeds of the tour will support the Foundation's Student Scholarship Programs. ■

## Tax Credit Break-through

The generous support Redeemer received at the Golf Tournament was not the only good news of the day. Over dinner, MPP Ted McMeekin announced that the provincial government had approved an Order in Council to extend the tax credit that employers receive for hiring co-op students to Redeemer University College. This means that now Redeemer's co-op students can apply for placements on the same basis and standards as publicly-funded colleges and universities.

It has taken two and a half years of prayer and work to secure this change. At the dinner, President Cooper thanked Mr. McMeekin for his tenacity and his advocacy on this issue, and praised God for His glorious answer to prayer. ■

# Coming Events

All events are held on Redeemer's campus at 777 Garner Rd. East, Ancaster unless otherwise noted. For tickets or more information, please call the Box Office at 905.648.2139 x4211, or visit [www.ticketwindow.ca](http://www.ticketwindow.ca) to purchase tickets on-line.

Dec ► Apr  
8 25

## Art Gallery Exhibits

Redeemer students, alumni and faculty, along with invited guests will host art displays throughout the academic year in Redeemer's Art Gallery.

**December 8 to December 18**

The Fall Senior Student Exhibition.

**January 10 to January 28**

Horizon Lines, an exhibition of artwork in a variety of media by Christian children and youth in the Oakville, Burlington and Mississauga area. The Guest Curator will be James Tughan.

**February 1 to February 23**

The Valley, by Laura Findlay.

**February 28 to March 12**

United Collection, by Jeremy Winger.

**March 14 to April 2**

Redeemer University College Faculty Exhibition.

**April 4 to April 25**

Spring Senior Student Exhibition.

Jan ► Apr  
31 3

## Poetry Readings

On selected Thursdays, Canada Council Poetry Readings will be held in the Boardroom from 4:30-6:30 pm. Admission is free. Sponsored in part by the Canada Council for the Arts.

**January 31, 2008** - Adam Dickinson, a young poet particularly concerned with our relationship with the environment.

**April 3** - Lee Maracle, a Native Canadian poet from British Columbia.

Jan  
11

## Concert features alumni and students

Several Redeemer students and alumni will be part of an evening of great music, sponsored by the Student Life Department on January 11, 2008.

**Article One** ([www.articleonemusic.com](http://www.articleonemusic.com)), featuring Dave de Smit '03, will headline the show, with sound and lights provided by Justin Colyn '03, who operates his own production company.

Special guests for the evening will be **Garner**, which includes Matt McKenna '04 and James Bloemendaal '06. Garner ([www.myspace.com/garnerband](http://www.myspace.com/garnerband)) will release its first full-length album, "It's About Time," on November 30 at a CD Release Party at the Westside Concert Theatre in Hamilton.

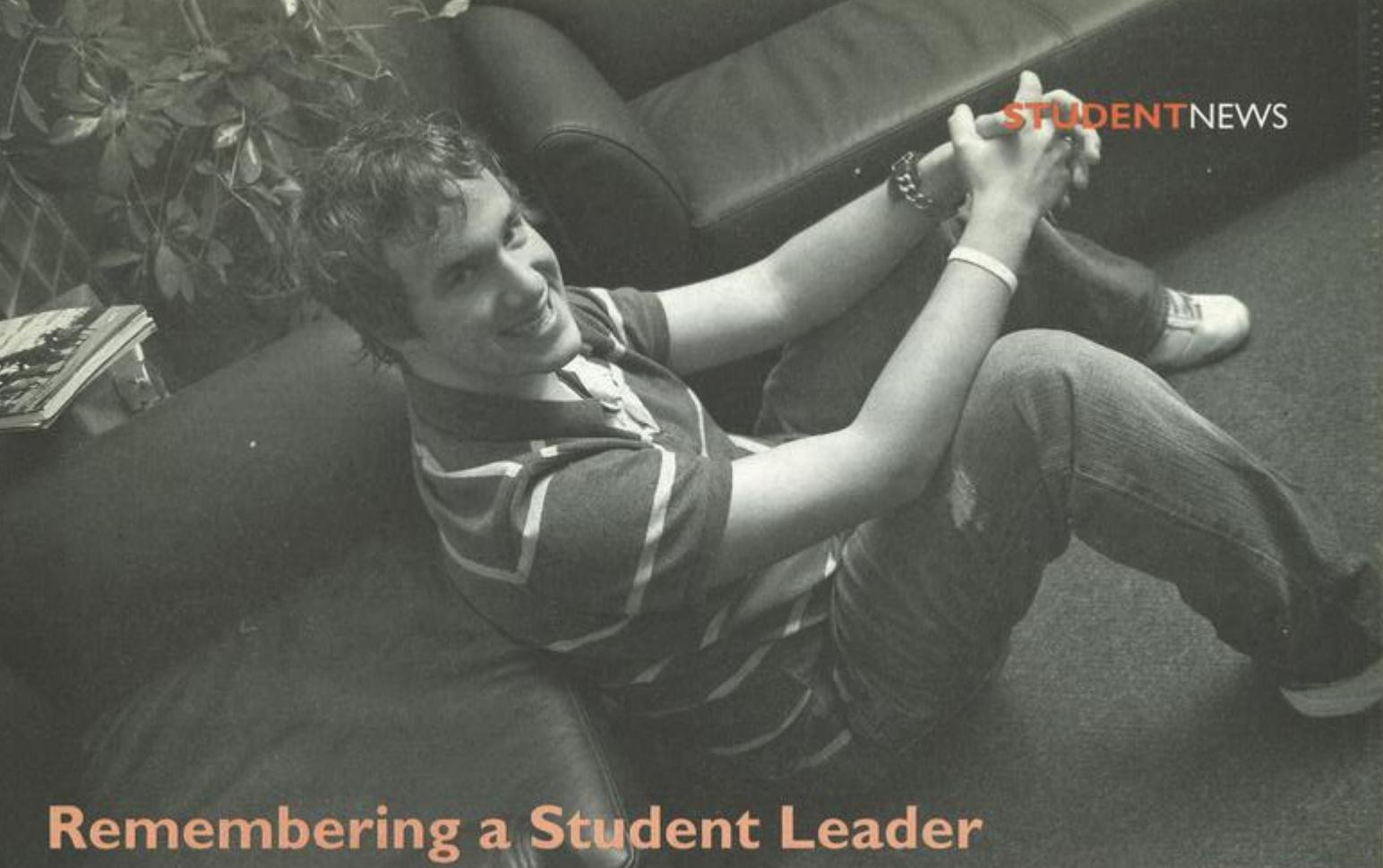


Also on the bill will be two Redeemer student bands, **Land of Canaan** and **Ember Union**, both winners of November's Battle of the Bands. Members of Garner helped choose them from the 12 entries that competed.

Tickets: \$10; \$5 with a valid Redeemer ID and can be purchased at the Box Office or at [www.ticketwindow.ca](http://www.ticketwindow.ca).

**Correction:** In the last issue of *Images*, we neglected to properly recognize DUCA Financial Services and Verstraete Travel and Cruises as sponsors of "The Reckoning" which was premiered at Redeemer this past May. We regret the oversight and thank them again for their support.





## Remembering a Student Leader

# Craig Allan Vanderveen

The Redeemer community was shaken this past summer with the passing of Craig Vanderveen, a fourth-year student from Carman, MB. Craig, along with a friend, Denise Veendaal, was killed in a car accident while visiting family in Manitoba.

A former Student Senate President, Craig was a much-loved and admired leader on campus. He was majoring in both Business and Political Science, and had plans to work for the government in international relations or business after graduating. Craig also worked in Redeemer's Communications Department for two summers.

Craig was the oldest of four children and is survived by his parents Allan and Anita Vanderveen, his brothers Scott and Dylan and sister Ashley. He also leaves a host of friends in both Manitoba and at Redeemer.

One of Craig's friends, Chris de Winter, remembered Craig with these words: "Remember your Creator in the days of your youth . . ." (Ecclesiastes 12:1a).

*This was the text for Craig's funeral, and it represented him so well. A former Student Senate President and Treasurer, Craig was also active in the University's A-Team and a leader of the Young Peoples at his church. In all these things, Craig understood and embodied the Christ-like pattern for leadership. Yet, one of the remarkable things about Craig was his humility; despite his leadership capabilities, his academic prowess and his incredible popularity amongst whomever he met, Craig was always humble and serving.*

*Craig had a personality that drew people to him and he radiated love and acceptance. For Craig, cliques were an anomaly of the past because people from any circle of friends or social community were welcomed into his life. It is clear that in all these things Craig was motivated by Jesus' command to "Love each other as I have loved you" (John 15:12). By these things, and innumerable more, Craig taught us about the struggle to bring every square inch of life Coram Deo, before the face of God and to His glory. Now in death, Craig is teaching all of us to praise God through tears and pain – even without our understanding.*

*Until that better day when all the saints are gathered together we remember our brother Craig Vanderveen, by striving to imitate his Christ-like leadership: fighting for truth, living for justice and through it all embodying the passion and love of Christ. ■*



## A Time for PRAYER

Part of the Redeemer contingent that gathered at Queen's Park to call for an end to poverty.

The study and practice of prayer has garnered much attention at Redeemer over the past years. A number of recent initiatives organized by students, staff and faculty, reflect that increase.

At the end of September, the entire Redeemer community — faculty, staff and students — gathered for Prayer Day. The central event for this day was an extended Chapel Service where the entire community gathered in prayer. Such was the institutional commitment to this event that classes were shortened to accommodate the service. Throughout the day and into the evening, there were a number of structured and more informal times of prayer and worship.

Prayer Week, on the other hand, has been a tradition at Redeemer for four years. This 24/7 commitment of devotion saw students, faculty, staff, residents

**“It’s with experiences like this that we, as students, are able to extend our learning outside of the classroom and see the real life application of what we read about in our textbooks.”**

and others sign up to pray for an hour at a time for seven consecutive days. The prayer room, which was set up in Augustine Hall, included a thanksgiving wall, a crying out wall, materials for drawing out implorations and benedictions and maps of Hamilton and the world, which encouraged followers to pray in a variety of ways. By the end of the week, 168 hours of service had been given to God and the walls were covered with accounts of prayer and praise to Him.

Also coming out of Prayer Week, a number of Redeemer students and faculty members joined 400 others, including many church and faith groups, in downtown Toronto for a march against poverty on September 26. The group con-

gregated at Queen's Park to demand that those running for provincial office take action towards reducing poverty. For the marchers, it was a reminder that God has the power and authority to influence and change actions, and that supporting this work requires perseverance and dedication to prayer and action.

Redeemer student Rachel Bokma felt honoured to be a part of this “eye opening experience,” marching on behalf of her brothers and sisters for what she refers to as “the least of these.” She states, “It’s with experiences like this that we, as students, are able to extend our learning outside of the classroom and see the real life application of what we read about in our textbooks.” ■

REDEEMER UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

PROMISES KEPT  
A QUARTER-CENTURY  
UPDATE TO OUR COMMUNITY

GREAT IS GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

REDEEMER  
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE  
CELEBRATING  
**25**  
YEARS  
1982-2007

# PROMISES KEPT

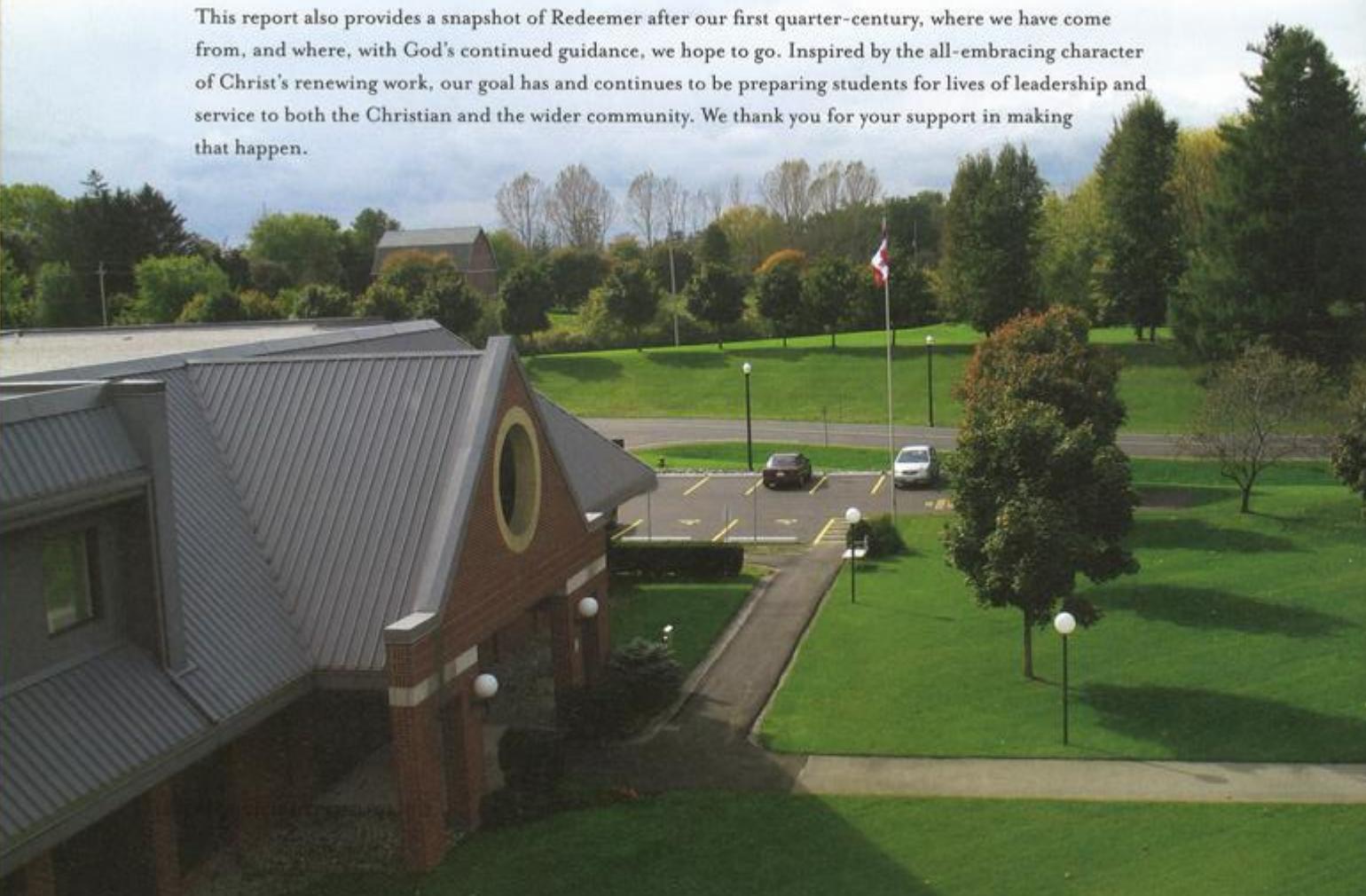
## A QUARTER-CENTURY UPDATE TO OUR COMMUNITY

Redeemer University College is celebrating its 25th Anniversary this year. We have much to be thankful for, not the least of which is how we have realized God's promise of support (Matt. 28:20). Over the years, this often has been manifested through the prayers and gifts of our faithful and generous supporting community.

Redeemer has made a promise as well, one that is found in our mission: to provide a quality Christian liberal arts and sciences education and to promote research and creative endeavour. It is a promise that we make to our students, our supporters and the community at large.

This is a communal quest and vision, realized by the dedicated efforts and cooperation of our faculty, staff and students working together. In these pages you will read how representatives of this community each contribute to the tapestry of our unique campus environment. These vignettes show how, with the Lord's blessing, we are keeping our promise through the teaching, learning, scholarship and service that makes Redeemer University College such a vibrant Christian academic community.

This report also provides a snapshot of Redeemer after our first quarter-century, where we have come from, and where, with God's continued guidance, we hope to go. Inspired by the all-embracing character of Christ's renewing work, our goal has and continues to be preparing students for lives of leadership and service to both the Christian and the wider community. We thank you for your support in making that happen.

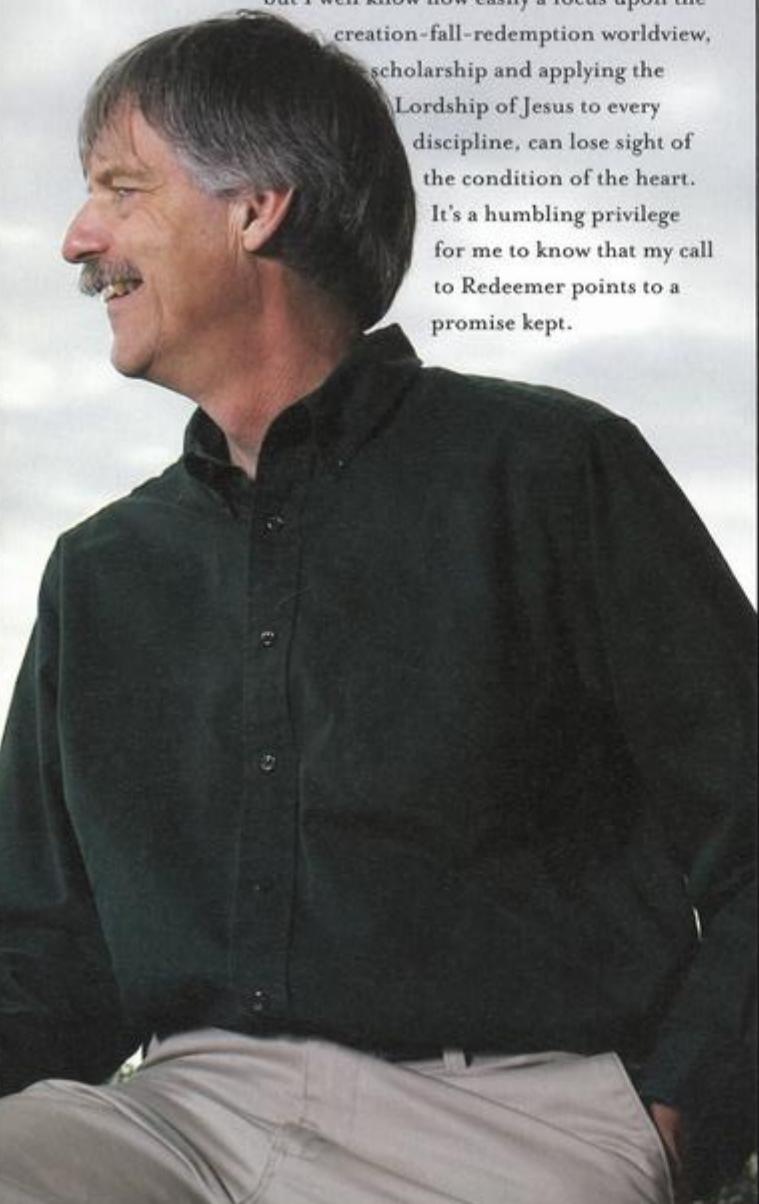


# SYD HIELEMA

CHAPLAIN AND ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF RELIGION & THEOLOGY



Though it was not until Redeemer's 25th year (06-07) that a full-time chaplain was added to the team, it quickly became clear to me – the one honoured with that role – that my position represented a promise kept. My interview at Redeemer began with the request, "please describe your personal relationship with Jesus Christ." Before I could respond, the questioner added, "that was the first question I was asked when I interviewed many years ago, and I soon realized that one's walk with the Lord is central here." One might assume that such things go without saying at a Christian university, but I well know how easily a focus upon the creation-fall-redemption worldview, scholarship and applying the Lordship of Jesus to every discipline, can lose sight of the condition of the heart. It's a humbling privilege for me to know that my call to Redeemer points to a promise kept.



# BRENDA STEPHENSON

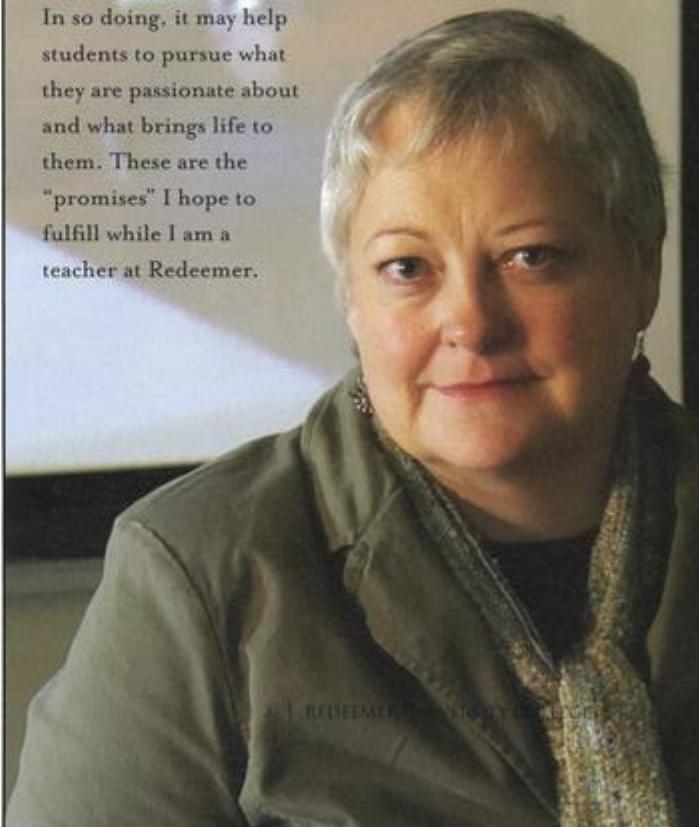
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF PSYCHOLOGY



As a faculty member of the Psychology Department at Redeemer, every promise I make or every goal I keep towards my students is based on Calvin's opening words of the *Institutes of the Christian Religion* (p.15, 1536/1995): "There is no deep knowing of God without a deep knowing of the self and no deep knowing of self without a deep knowing of God." This means that my challenge is to make learning not just an imparting of information, but an experiential and embodied experience. I do not always succeed. However, I do believe that learning is about honing critical thinking skills by grappling with difficult concepts in both theory and research. The most helpful way to accomplish this and promote dialogue is to provide a classroom atmosphere that is non-threatening and respectful. This allows students to have an opinion that may be contradictory to the mainstream.

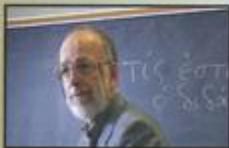
Another of my goals is to impart to students my passion for the subjects I teach – Jungian psychology, clinical, spirituality and abnormal.

In so doing, it may help students to pursue what they are passionate about and what brings life to them. These are the "promises" I hope to fulfill while I am a teacher at Redeemer.

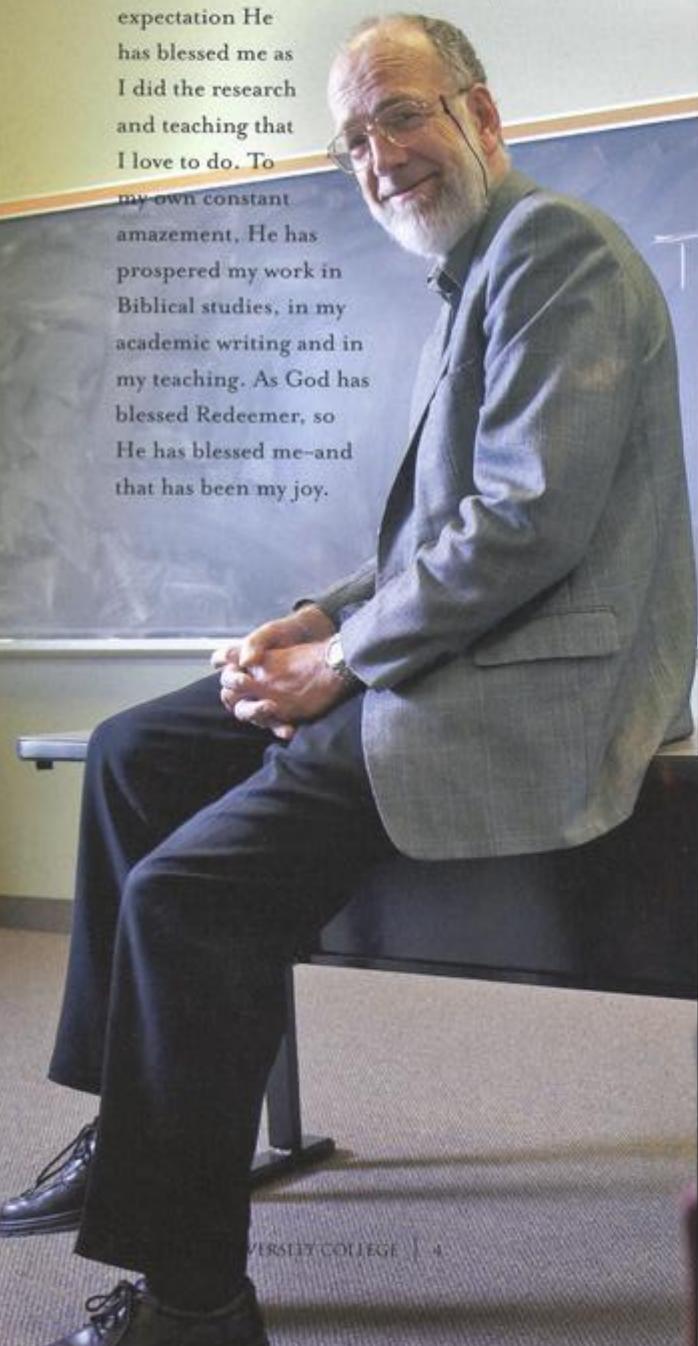


# AL WOLTERS

PROFESSOR OF RELIGION & THEOLOGY, AND CLASSICAL STUDIES



When I first came to Redeemer more than 22 years ago, I promised myself that I would work hard in my new discipline of Biblical studies, that I would seek to inspire my students with the vision of seeing academic work as a glorious vocation of God, and that I would do these things—passionately—from a distinctively Reformed perspective. But the promises that have been kept were more God's than my own. To an extent far beyond any reasonable expectation He has blessed me as I did the research and teaching that I love to do. To my own constant amazement, He has prospered my work in Biblical studies, in my academic writing and in my teaching. As God has blessed Redeemer, so He has blessed me—and that has been my joy.



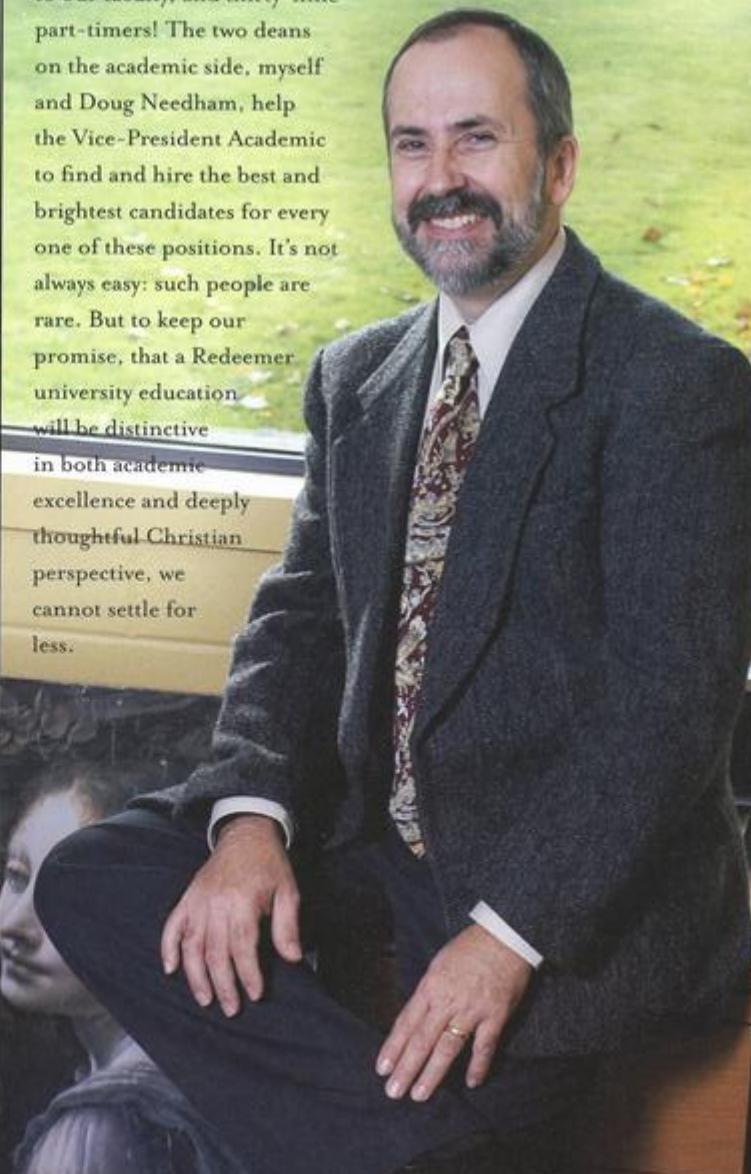
# DOUG LONEY

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH AND DEAN OF ARTS & FOUNDATIONS



So you'd like to become a faculty member at Redeemer University College? Okay—here are the basics: you'll need (1) six or seven years of intensive study after your first university degree, (2) a gift for teaching: knowledge, passion and eloquence, (3) a deeply-rooted personal faith in Jesus Christ, (4) a commitment to integrate that faith with everything you do, think about, write and profess as a teaching scholar. Oh, yes and (5) you'll have to get along with the rest of us—itself not always an easy task!

Last year we added four full-time professors to our faculty, and thirty-nine part-timers! The two deans on the academic side, myself and Doug Needham, help the Vice-President Academic to find and hire the best and brightest candidates for every one of these positions. It's not always easy: such people are rare. But to keep our promise, that a Redeemer university education will be distinctive in both academic excellence and deeply thoughtful Christian perspective, we cannot settle for less.



# STEVE PYPKER

STUDENT SENATE PRESIDENT



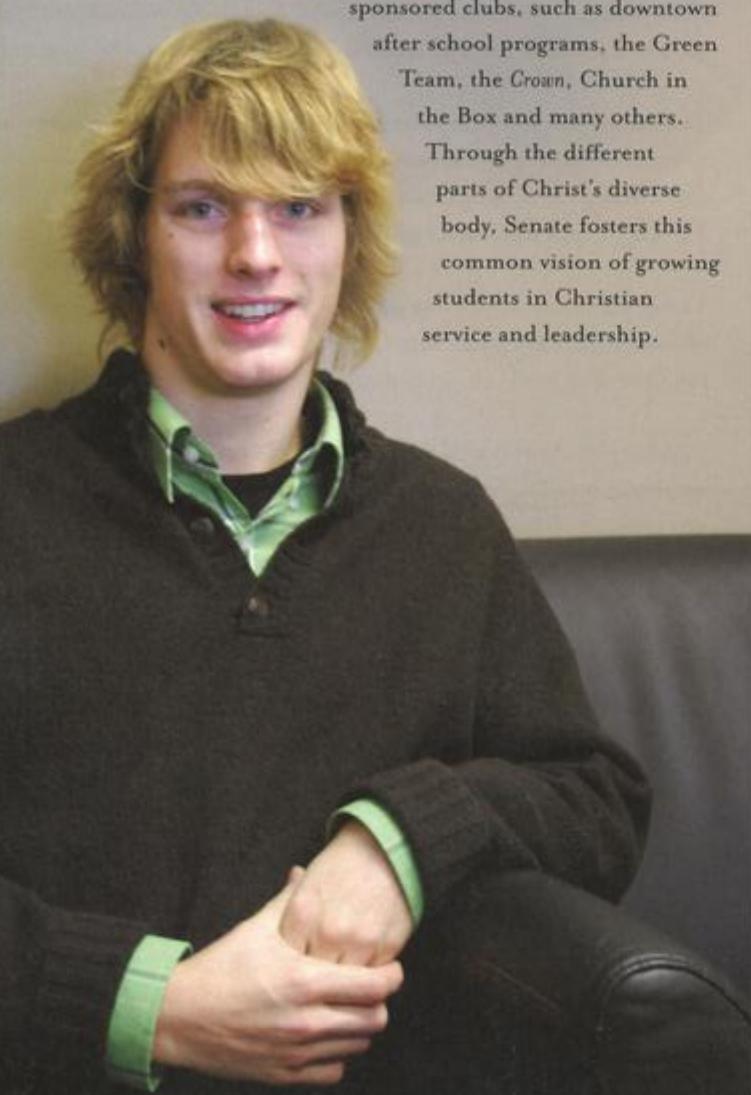
Looking back on my first years at Redeemer, I never would have imagined myself serving as the Student Senate president. I felt

– as I’m sure others have before me – that other students were more qualified to lead the student body. However, I now see that as we step out and follow Christ’s call – even as we are unsure of our abilities – He upholds and teaches us how to serve and lead. In this way, Student Senate is instrumental in keeping Redeemer’s promise to prepare students for lives of service and leadership. Such practical learning occurs not only through the relationships and experiences shared within Student Senate itself, but also through student involvement in Senate-

sponsored clubs, such as downtown after school programs, the Green

Team, the Crown, Church in the Box and many others.

Through the different parts of Christ’s diverse body, Senate fosters this common vision of growing students in Christian service and leadership.



# NANCY HARTHOLT

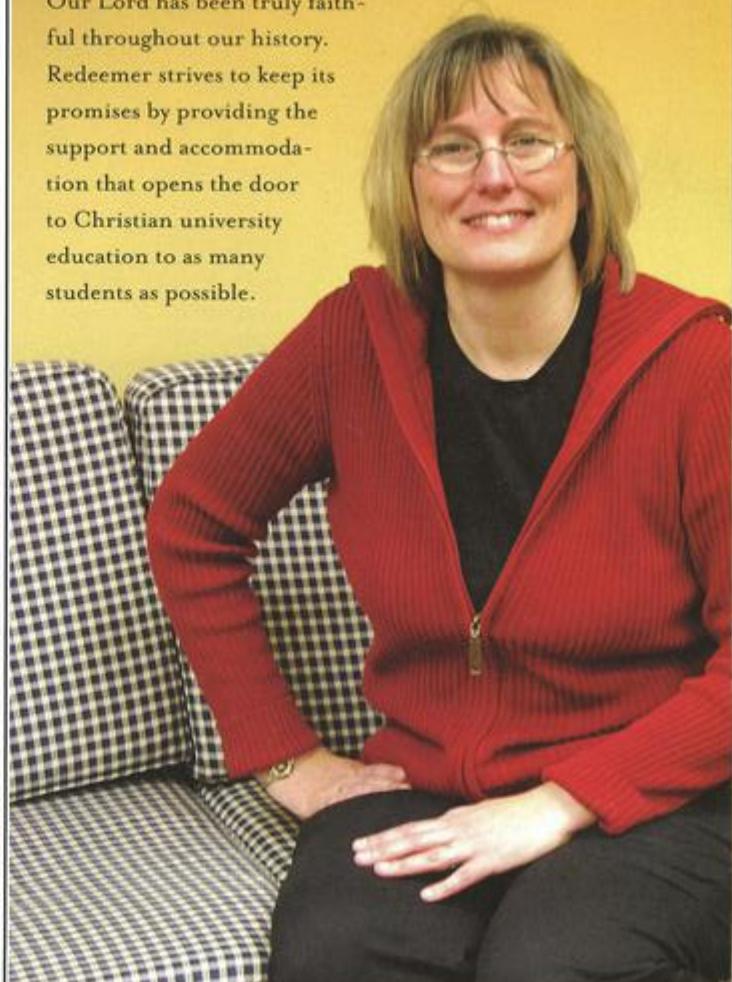
SPECIAL NEEDS COORDINATOR



As Special Needs Coordinator for 14 years, I have seen how God has kept Redeemer in His hands. I have also seen Redeemer’s promises extended to many students with special needs, students who may not have had that opportunity 25 years ago.

We have seen the Redeemer community develop a culture of acceptance and giving. I have witnessed the overwhelming support and affirmation these individuals receive from faculty, staff and fellow students as they pursue their education. And as I look back on those students we have served, I remember vividly the outpouring of love and respect they received when they walked or wheeled, alone or with assistance, across the Auditorium stage at graduation to receive their degrees.

Our Lord has been truly faithful throughout our history. Redeemer strives to keep its promises by providing the support and accommodation that opens the door to Christian university education to as many students as possible.





# CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

In September 1982, Redeemer opened its doors to students for the first time. On Saturday, September 29, the entire community gathered to mark the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of that event and to give thanks to God for His great faithfulness through the years.

The day began with the Annual General Meeting for members of Redeemer. Following the AGM, there was a special banquet that honoured those who served on that first Board of Governors in 1980. Dignitaries from all levels of government gave greetings and offered their congratulations to Redeemer, and Rev. Dr. Henry De Bolster, Redeemer's founding president, and Rev. John Zantingh, who was Chair of that inaugural Board, reflected on their reliance on God's provision during those early days.

The centerpiece of the day was a Celebration Service in the Auditorium taken in by over 600 students, staff, faculty and friends of Redeemer. There we remembered moments, both somber and joyful, that have marked Redeemer's past, and offered praise to the One who made this day possible.

Redeemer's alumni also gathered to note their contribution to Redeemer's past as part of Homecoming. Throughout the presentations that were given during the program, it was obvious that these former students valued, and were shaped by, their Redeemer experience.

The capstone event of the day was a recital by members of Redeemer's music faculty. Renowned musicians such as Valerie Tryon, Paul Benton and Janet Obermeyer – all of whom serve as adjunct instructors at Redeemer – provided a sample of the incredible talent found in the Music Department.

Throughout the day, which was marked by glorious sunshine, there was much time for fellowship among the supporters, faculty, staff and students. It was a fitting reminder that Redeemer, a community that is rooted in the centrality of Christ, has a reach and an impact that goes far beyond the walls of the campus.

# 2007-08 PROFILE

## ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Redeemer University College offers courses in more than 30 different specializations leading to Bachelor degrees in Arts, Science and Education. The academic program is enhanced by a number of experiential learning opportunities such as co-op placements, internships, off-campus and international programs.

Art	French	Political Science	Group Concentrations
Biology	Geography	Psychology	Computer Science/Mathematics
Business	History	Recreation	Computer Science/Physics
Chemistry	Horticulture	Religion & Theology	General Science
Classical Studies	Kinesiology	Youth Ministry	Humanities
Computer Science	Mathematics	Social Work	Language Arts Studies
Dutch	Music	Sociology	Mission & World
Economics	Philosophy	Sociology/Social Work	Christianity
Education	Physical Education	Spanish	Science Studies
English	Physical Science	Theatre Arts	Social Studies
Environmental Studies	Physics	(& Communication)	

## ENROLMENT

### STUDENTS

Full-Time	767	Male	326
Part-Time	118	Female	559
<b>TOTAL STUDENTS:</b>			<b>885</b>

### STAFF AND FACULTY

Full-Time Staff	60
Part-Time Staff	30
<b>TOTAL STAFF:</b>	<b>90</b>
Full-Time Faculty	45
Part-Time Faculty	52
<b>TOTAL FACULTY:</b>	<b>97</b>

80% of full-time faculty have Ph.Ds or equivalent terminal degrees. The average class size at Redeemer is 23.5, and classes range from 3 to 100 students. The student-to-faculty ratio is 17:1

## FINANCIAL AID

In 2006-07, Redeemer students received over \$6.2 million in financial aid through various forms of assistance, such as:

- Redeemer University College Scholarships  
*42% of full-time students received academic entrance scholarships totaling over \$716,000*
- Redeemer Foundation Leadership and Academic Scholarships  
*35 awards totaling \$150,000*
- Other Named Scholarships and Bursaries  
*75 awards totaling over \$105,000*
- On-Campus Employment  
*Over 300 positions available*
- The Redeemer Student Fund Loan program
- Government assistance programs

## RESEARCH

Research is an important aspect of our faculty's work. Research activities at the University have been supported in part by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, the John Templeton Foundation, the Jackman and Dooyeweerd Foundations and Redeemer University College.

## CAMPUS SERVICES

Throughout its first quarter-century, Redeemer has been a cultural and recreational asset, offering theatre and concert performances, public lectures and conference and athletic facilities that enrich the lives of the local community and the broader Christian community.

Redeemer University College is Hamilton's third-largest conference services provider, welcoming over 60,000 visitors each year. Beyond the revenue this generates, Redeemer's profile is raised as guests from Hamilton and around the world take advantage of our facilities and services.

## ALUMNI

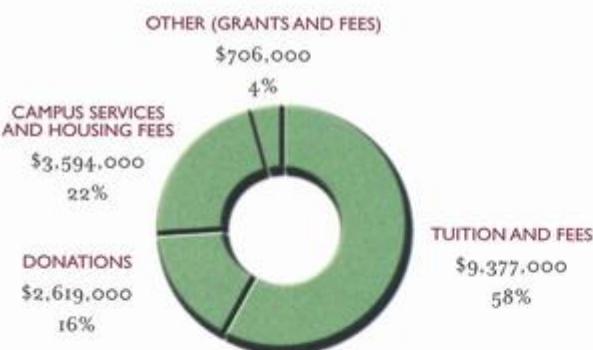
Perhaps the best way to see how we are meeting our promises is through our alumni. Redeemer's 2700 former students can be found working in a wide range of businesses, social service agencies, ministries and public institutions. Approximately 34% of graduates have continued their education in professional and academic programs in more than 70 graduate schools across Canada, the United States and around the world.

Redeemer alumni are taking what they have learned here and going to neighbourhoods, churches, workplaces and schools – across Canada and now reaching 30 countries – to lead lives of leadership and service to the Christian and the wider community.

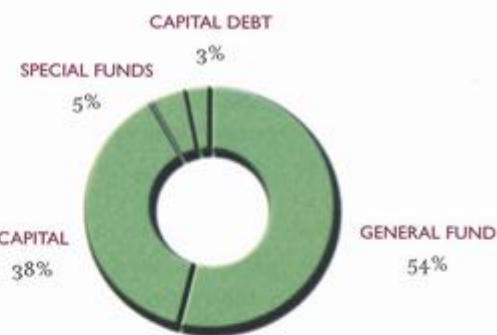
## FINANCES

Redeemer remains committed to being faithful stewards of the resources with which it is entrusted.

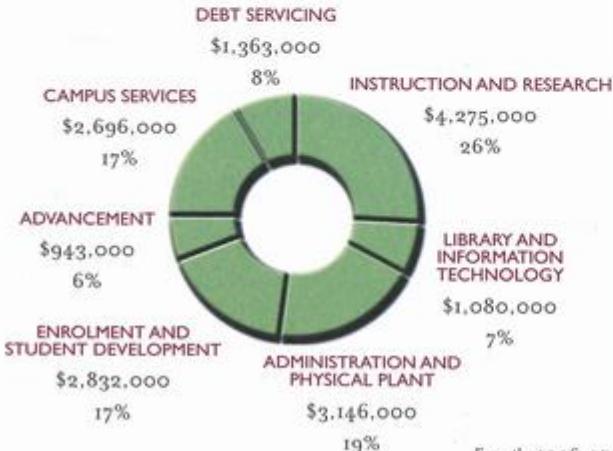
### REVENUES



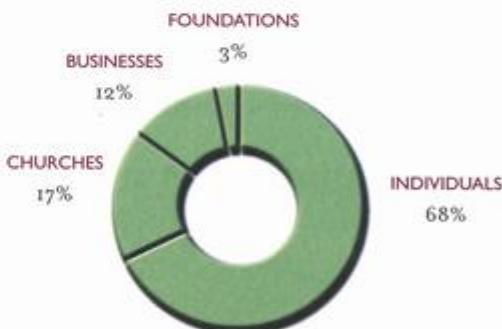
### DONATION ALLOCATION



### EXPENSES



### DONATION SOURCES



# REMEMBERING 25 YEARS OF GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

The 2007-08 academic year marks the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Redeemer University College. Looking back, we have been able to see God's hand throughout the ups and downs of our history. It is, above all, a story of God's faithfulness.

Although there had been talk of establishing an undergraduate university in Ontario with a Reformed Christian basis as early as the mid-1950s, Redeemer's history really began in 1975, when a detailed investigation was undertaken by a feasibility committee. From that work the Ontario Christian College Association was formed in 1976, with a mandate to open such an institution as soon as possible.

There were many obstacles to starting a Christian university in Ontario – the provincial government was opposed to opening any new universities; public universities were wary of a faith-based institution; the logistics and the finances were daunting; and there was no guarantee that faculty or students would come. However, the faithful visionaries behind the project, led by Rev. Henry R. De Bolster, who would go on to become Redeemer's founding president, persevered, and on December 12, 1980, the Ontario Legislature passed Bill 48, "An Act to Incorporate Redeemer Reformed Christian College." With the granting of this charter, Redeemer College could become a reality.

In September 1982, Redeemer opened its doors to students for the first time. The first campus consisted of a former elementary school on Hamilton's Beach Strip and rented townhouses in Burlington. There were eight full-time faculty members and ninety-seven students that first year. By 1985, there were about 250 students, and Redeemer had outgrown its rented facilities.

Redeemer purchased 78 acres of land in Ancaster for the construction of a new campus, which opened in 1986. In November of that year, the college had its first Commencement, with 40 students graduating. Over the years,



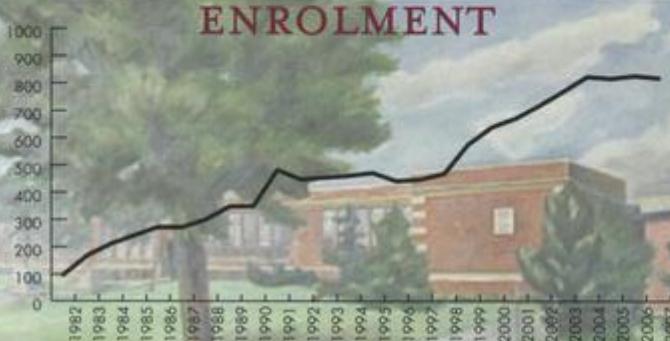
REDEEMER'S FOUNDING PRESIDENT,  
REV. DR. HENRY R. DE BOLSTER

Redeemer's campus has grown to 85 acres (35 hectares), and become an important resource to the local and broader Christian community.

In 1987, Redeemer achieved another milestone when it was admitted as a member of the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada. And over the years, Redeemer's provincial charter has been amended a number of times to:

- Give Redeemer the authority to grant Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees (1998);
- Change the official name to Redeemer University College (2000) and
- Give Redeemer the authority to grant the Bachelor of Education degree (2003).

There have, of course, been challenges and setbacks through the years. However, God's faithful provision, often manifested through the gifts and prayers of our dedicated community of supporters, has allowed Redeemer to become a "city set on a hill" (Matt. 5:14), a beacon for Christ's Lordship, in the academic community, the greater Hamilton area and for the extended Christian community.



A PAINTING OF REDEEMER'S BEACH BOULEVARD CAMPUS,  
BY IRENE KESMAT, HANGS OUTSIDE THE AUDITORIUM AT  
THE ANCASTER CAMPUS

# LOOKING FORWARD TO THE NEXT QUARTER-CENTURY

JUSTIN D. COOPER  
PRESIDENT



We are encouraged that Redeemer is establishing a reputation for academic excellence and a spiritually vibrant campus community as well as for community service. As a faith-based university we have a public mission that seeks to impact our society through teaching, scholarship and service. We are proud of our students, as well as our first-rate faculty and staff, who carry out this mission.

We are also thankful for the tremendous support we have received, enabling us to increase our enrolment, enhance our academic programs and develop our campus and facilities. With the continuing support of our various constituencies, we are encouraged by the possibilities for further growth as we look to the next 25 years. With the Lord's blessing, we see:

- The potential for increased enrolment to over 1000 students.
- Additional development in our undergraduate programs in areas such as social work, education, media studies and international studies.
- The opportunity to do more in the area of continuing education, to be a Christian centre of learning that serves not only high school graduates but also adult learners, professionals and leaders in various fields, including our own alumni.
- The possibility of offering a graduate-level program, beginning with an M.Ed. program, building on the growth we have already seen in the summer continuing education program.

Such growth will also require planning for additional facilities on our environmentally friendly campus, so that we can properly serve and retain a larger group of students. This would include:

- A student/campus centre;
- An athletic and wellness centre;
- An intermediate size performance space and
- Additional student residences.

As we see these visions and dream these dreams, we look to God's leading and direction, in keeping with our commitment to financial stewardship. As the Lord has blessed us over these past 25 years, we look to the future with confidence, as we continue to strive to be a Christian university dedicated to excellence in every area.



*Discover* ALL THINGS IN HIM  
 **REDEEMER**  
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

777 Garner Road East, Ancaster, Ontario L9K 1J4  
T. 905.648.2131 | F. 905.648.2134 | 1.877.779.0913  
[www.redeemer.ca](http://www.redeemer.ca)

# Redeemer Welcomes New Faculty

From around the world to our own backyard, Redeemer's new faculty bring a variety of experiences and talents to the lecture halls and laboratories.

## Dr. Mary Ashun A World of Experience



Teaching at the university level requires lots of formal education. After living on three continents, Dr. Mary Ashun, Assistant Professor of Education, also credits her cultural education as being instrumental in her educational experience.

Born in Ghana, Dr. Ashun completed her first degree in England and received her Ph.D. in Buffalo, NY. Those experiences have given her the opportunity to appreciate African, European and North American cultures and perspectives, something she tries to incorporate in her work. For example, Dr. Ashun visited her native land in mid-October to do some research on the AIDS crisis. She is examining the way preventative information is delivered, taking into account the different cultural and social learning perspectives.

As part of Redeemer's Education Faculty, Dr. Ashun's focus is on teaching math & science. Her current research is on "How to Increase Mathematical Confidence and Competence in Pre Service Elementary Teachers." Her philosophy is that a solid teacher "must be creative and knowledgeable."

Dr. Ashun is content being both a career and a family woman. She and her husband Joseph have three boys. Reflecting their African heritage and Western experiences, the boys have both African and English names. Dr. Ashun considers herself blessed to be sane with four 'boys' in her life. Redeemer is blessed to have her on its faculty.

## Dr. Kyle Spyksma From Student to Teacher



When your main form of transportation is a bicycle, it's good to know what the weather will be like. Dr. Kyle Spyksma, Assistant Professor of Mathematics and Physics and avid biker, was so concerned about it that he wrote a doctoral dissertation on the subject.

Formally, Dr. Spyksma's thesis is entitled "The Dynamics and Predictability

of Moist Turbulence," but he also describes it as "Fun with Cumulus Clouds: the Fluffy Ones." All joking aside, he successfully completed this as part of the Ph.D. program from McGill University in Montreal this past summer and he is continuing his research in the area.

Dr. Spyksma is a Redeemer graduate from 2001 and is excited to have returned to the Redeemer community. He looks fondly upon his own experiences as an undergraduate, especially the relationships that he developed with many of his professors. In fact, Dr. Spyksma admits that Redeemer's faculty was a strong motivating factor in his decision to come back, even if it feels a bit strange. He is taking the place of Dr. Vince van Dijk, who retired this past year. While it may be challenging to fill the shoes of his former instructor and mentor, Spyksma enjoys teaching and looks forward to the challenges of a university professor.

Dr. Spyksma hopes to increase the course offerings in the Physics Department enough so that students can graduate with a major in the field. He is also determined to demonstrate that there does not need to be any dichotomy between Christians and science: "You can be a Christian and still love and be excited about science."

## Prof. J. Bernice Stieva Building a Community for All



As an elementary school teacher for 17 years, Professor J. Bernice Stieva, Sessional Lecturer in Education, has seen it all: she has taught in Ontario and Alberta, from kindergarten to grade eight, in regular and double-graded settings and special needs students in a withdrawal program. Whatever the circumstances however, she has always been motivated to build community in the classroom.

Professor Stieva delights in seeing children help, respect and accept one another. Therefore, she considers it mandatory for teachers to love their students by respecting them through words and actions. Her goal at Redeemer is to infuse in her students the ability to teach children to "work hard and learn smart." "Learners are learners yet all are unique," she says; there will always be those who think differently and others who catch

on more quickly. Ultimately, she wants students to be equipped with the skills and discernment so that they can discover their own God-given talents. With these tools, students can go on to discover God's work and His plan for their lives.

Professor Stieva received her undergraduate degree at the University of Guelph, majoring in Child Studies. She later earned her Bachelor of Education and her Masters degree at Brock University. This semester she is teaching Children's Literature and Educational Psychology and next semester she will be leading classes in Language Arts and Reading Remediation.

After all that she has seen at the elementary level, Prof. Stieva is looking forward to facing new challenges in the university classroom, helping students develop their own philosophies on teaching.

## Dr. David Zietsma Coming Home



After completing his Ph.D. at the University of Akron in Ohio, Burlington native Dr. David Zietsma has returned to Ontario to accept a position as Assistant Professor of History. Prior to his doctoral work, Dr. Zietsma earned an Honours B.A. from McMaster University and a Masters degree from the University of Waterloo.

While residing in the "mid-west", Dr. Zietsma learned much about American culture, living through the effects of Katrina, experiencing first hand the hectic pace of a presidential election campaign and participating in inner-city ministry. Not surprisingly, the focus of his work is American history, particularly U.S involvement in World War II.

Dr. Zietsma will be teaching several courses in American history this year, and his research in the area has also been published: "Sin Has No History: Religion, National Identity, and U.S. Intervention, 1937-1941," was printed in the journal *Diplomatic History*, and "Building the Kingdom of God: Religious Discourse, National Identity, and the Good Neighbor Policy, 1933-1938" will be published in a forthcoming issue of *Rhetoric & Public Affairs*. Currently, Dr. Zietsma is in the process of transforming his dissertation into a book manuscript.

"History," according to Dr Zietsma, "provides a window to see how societies have interacted in the past in order to better understand human behaviour and interaction in the present." To make the connections, he hopes to challenge his students to think "outside the box" and to see how and why the study of history remains relevant. ■

## With Sadness but with Many Thanks...

**Mr. Rob Harvey**, Associate Professor of Business, left Redeemer to return to the private sector. We wish him God's blessings in his new endeavours.

*Redeemer is also blessed by the contributions made by a number of part-time and sessional instructors. Most are graduate students or hold down full-time positions outside of Redeemer.*

## Part-Time and Sessional Instructors

### FALL ONLY

David Antscherl - Theatre Arts  
Elaine Botha - Interdisciplinary  
Tom Carson - Theatre Arts, Mainstage  
Michelle Cockell - Business  
Hugh Cook - English  
\*Elaine de Vries - English  
Denita Dyck - Physical Education  
Brent Fifield - Music  
Bill Fledderus - English  
Erin Goheen - English  
\*Leah Haanstra - Physical Education  
\*Debra Hughes - Psychology  
\*Julie Kikkert - Biology Lab  
\*Tim Lodder - Physical Education  
Robert MacLarkey - Sociology  
Dave Mantel - Physical Education  
Daniel Mullin - Philosophy  
\* Dan Reilly - History  
Tim Sheridan - Religion & Theology  
\*Hobbe Smit - Computer Science  
Gideon Strauss - Philosophy  
Heather Strong - Physical Education  
\*Gioconda Suarez - Sociology  
\*Gary Van Arragon - History  
Harry VanDyke - History

### WINTER ONLY

\*Michael Burna - English  
Jerry Creedon - Education  
\*Kevin Flatt - History  
\*Rob Joustra - Political Science  
\*Milton Kooistra - History  
Agnes Kramer-Hamstra - English  
\*James Rusthoven - Interdisciplinary  
\*Peter Schuurman - Religion & Theology  
\*Maria Vanderspek - Business  
Wytse van Dijk - Mathematics/  
Computer Science

### FALL AND WINTER

\* Elizabeth Avery - History  
Johannes Beukes - Business  
Harry Blyleven - Education  
Jody Bruulsema - Physics lab instructor  
\*Stephanie Burgoyne - Mathematics  
Sara Croke - Biology  
Karen Dieleman - English  
Syd Hielema - Religion & Theology  
Fran Huberts - Education  
Ricardo Marroquin - Spanish  
\*Elizabeth (Bond) Pietrantonio - Mathematics  
Gideon Prins - Geography  
Marie Stevens - English & Writing Centre  
James Tughan - Art  
Henrietta Van Dolderen - Dutch  
John Vriend - Education  
Petra Zantingh - Art & Education

### SESSIONAL FACULTY 2007-08

Diane Dent - French  
Dianne Moroz - Physical Education  
Bernice Stieva - Education  
Helen Vreugdenhil - History

### SUMMER (2007)

Harry Blyleven - Education  
Syd Hielema - Education  
Ray Louter - Education/Theatre Arts  
David Peck - Philosophy  
Jim Rooks - Education  
Steve Sider - Education  
Charles Voth - Education  
Petra Zantingh - Education

### \* FIRST-TIME INSTRUCTORS



## Super Summer Science Camp



Top: Emma Van Haaren and Aren Plante making nachos with a solar box oven and above: Kenton Van Pelt dusting for finger prints.

Nine 8-11 year old "Junior Agents" reported to Redeemer University College on July 30, for a week of investigation, problem-solving and scientific research as part of a new program called the Super Summer Science Camp.

The "Senior Agents" – Adjunct Lecturer in Biology, Jennifer Chiang, Vanessa Chiang '05 and Redeemer student Laura Brunsting – organized and facilitated the program, which was designed to teach children about forensic science and how to use science to solve problems that arise in criminal investigations.

At Super Summer Science Camp, the junior detectives solved a new crime each day. They were witnesses to such things as vandalism in the lab and theft of a science class skeleton. After observing the scene, taking photographs and collecting evidence, the Junior Agents were taken back to the lab and shown how to use science to determine who committed the nefarious deeds.

Redeemer staff and faculty offered their assistance by playing out roles of suspects and culprits, and allowed the Junior Agents to fingerprint and photograph them.

By the camp's conclusion, the Junior Agents were crime-solving experts. They had been involved in several scientific activities such as blood typing, fingerprinting, chromatography, soil analysis, foot print plaster casting, entomology, lip print analysis, invisible ink, hair and fiber analysis and protein, peroxide, sugar and starch testing. ■

## Two Awards



Rachel Bokma from Schubenacadie, NS, was awarded an In-Course Scholarship from the Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation. Funded by the federal government, this award is given to students who have completed their second year of post-secondary education and are considered as leaders, innovators, academic achievers and who are involved in the community.

Redeemer nominated Ms. Bokma because of her contributions to the community, both at home and in Hamilton. At Redeemer, she has been a leader for a community service team, member of the A-Team (student volunteers for the Recruitment Office) and Spiritual Activities and Services Committee and a volunteer at Christian Horizons and Mission Services. Redeemer congratulates her for the well-deserved honour.



The Hamilton Spectator honoured Dr. John Boersema, Professor of Business, with the Publisher's Award for Educators at the Industry-Education Council of Hamilton Breakfast this past October. Recipients are recognized for their contributions in bringing business together with educational institutions. Dr. Boersema was given the award for his work in starting Redeemer's Business Co-op program.

# COME WALK WITH ME: Our Family's Educational Choices

By Deani A. Van Pelt

Our eldest daughter, like most children, had looked forward to starting school. For some time she and her sister had been creating imaginary worlds in which they would live for days, often based on the novels we'd read together that involved the most basic of toys—not much more than dolls, dishes and dress-up clothes. Although they were simple, her preschool years had been rich.

Several months into kindergarten, the crevice on the floor between her bed and the wall had become her place of refuge on the mornings she would be summoned for school. My heart ached for our child, whose vivid dreams for discovery and fulfillment at school were not coming to pass.

My year as a Bachelor of Education student in the pre-digital world left me with an Education Act on my shelves and while searching through it during the Christmas holidays, I noted as though for the first time, that formal education was not compulsory until a child was six. With one phone call, our five year old left the world of kindergarten and almost unintentionally, our adventure of walking together as a homeschooling family began.

In hindsight, our wander through a decade of non-school-based education, eventually involving all three of our children, included a number of phases and the reasons we continued to choose this form of education changed as the years unfolded. Certainly as an educational option in the mid-1990's it was still quirky, an educational anomaly in which the general public felt most empowered to accost all children seen in public during school hours and to interrogate them on their knowledge of, say, addition facts or on how they liked their teacher. Thankfully, a decade later it was viewed as one reasonable educational option amongst many, and most universities, for example, would consider applications from students educated in this manner.

While the reasons may have changed, our perspective of honouring our children's insights remained in tact. As we guided our children to the literature, the poetry, the music and the art that had stood the test of time, and while we carefully selected activities for their involvement, we allowed their responses to each to inform how we would progress.



We treated the world as a banquet hall, our books and our experiences as our food and together were nourished as we learned what we loved.

As I began thinking more deeply about education, its purposes and desired excellences, its processes, means and strategies, I began formal study of educational policy and leadership, all of which eventually resulted in my teaching in the Department of Education at Redeemer University College.

Time has passed and our children now attend schools, thriving places where they have experienced explosions of knowledge and engaging opportunities. But there are no years that have taught us what to love or what we love quite as much as the quiet ones of banqueting together at home. ■

Deani A. Van Pelt is Assistant Professor of Education at Redeemer University College. As lead researcher of studies on home education in Canada and on private schools in Ontario, she is frequently interviewed by national media on education policy issues. Her articles have been featured in such publications as the *Hamilton Spectator*, *Public Policy Options* and the *Fraser Forum*.

# The Votes Are In...



## The 2007-08 Redeemer Alumni Association Board of Directors:

Back row (l-r): Arjan Vos, Alumni Representative to the Board of Governors; Stephen Witteveen; Tim Wolfert, Director, Alumni and Community Relations; Mark Sinke. Front row (l-r): Shannon Spike, Alumni Representative to the Senate; Elizabeth Teeninga; Sharon Timmerman Vandermeulen, Alumni Board President; JD Alkema, Alumni Board Vice-President; Katrina Vandenberg, Student Senate Representative to the Alumni Board; Monica Proper Mudde, Alumni Board Secretary. Absent: Jennifer Dykhouse Adema, Kevin Huinink.

**A**s a result of the ballots that were mailed and emailed this summer, the Redeemer Alumni Board of Directors is pleased to welcome the following people to serve on the Board for a three-year term:

- » Jennifer Dykhouse Adema graduated in 2000 with a Bachelor of Arts in English and a Bachelor of Christian Education. She lives in Waterdown with her husband Kevin '01 and their two children.
- » Mark Sinke graduated in 2004 with a B.Sc. in Biology. He is working at First Christian Reformed Church in Hamilton as a representative of Serving in Mission Canada (SIM).
- » Elizabeth Teeninga graduated from Redeemer in 2002 with a major in Business. For one of her co-op placements, she worked for nine months in the Alumni and Community Relations Office. Elizabeth is currently working as Donations Manager at Mission Services in Hamilton.

» Shannon Spike was elected as the Alumni Representative to the Senate. She completed an undergraduate degree in Political Science in 2002. She earned her Masters in Political Science from the University of Guelph in 2005 and is currently enrolled in a Bachelor of Education program.

This was the last election for Alumni Board members. The Association also voted to accept a number of changes to the Alumni Association Constitution that will allow for Board members to be appointed. These changes, announced in the June issue of *Images*, are now part of the Association's Constitution, which is available on-line on at [www.redeemer.ca/alumni](http://www.redeemer.ca/alumni). The Board will still solicit nominees from the Association each spring. If you would like to serve on the Board, or would like to nominate someone to serve, please contact the Alumni Office. ■

## Return of the Champions



**A**fter losing their crown last year, the "Vellinga Boys" returned to capture the 13th Annual Alumni Association Golf Tournament this September at the Knollwood Golf Course (New Course), just west of Redeemer's campus.

Paul Schenk 'x95 won the Longest Drive Contest, and Mark Van Noord won the Closest to the Pin. In total, 30 alumni, faculty and friends participated in the best ball tournament that features fun, fellowship, healthy competition and lots of good-natured ribbing.

(l-r) Greg Van Rooyen '90, Rod Vellinga '93, Scott Robinson and John Vellinga '91 won for the fifth time.



## Engaging Students ... Encouraging Support

### New Student Awards Program Launched

Redeemer alumni have been increasingly active in their support for Redeemer University College and its students. In response, the Alumni Board has been examining how it can be more effective in presenting opportunities to alumni who wish to financially support Redeemer.

One of the central questions that the Board asked was, "Where would most alumni like to see their donations go?" Since most alumni have experienced the challenge of funding their education, the overwhelmingly response was to direct any support to students through bursaries, scholarships and similar awards.

As a result, the Alumni Board is pleased to announce the Redeemer Alumni Association Student Awards Program, or RAASAP, a new alumni-specific initiative

to provide financial assistance for students. RAASAP will offer two types of awards:

- » Alumni Leadership Awards; \$2000 scholarships given to a student entering his or her final year of study and who is maintaining a GPA of 8.0 or better; and
- » Alumni Leadership Bursaries; Valued at \$1500 each, awarded to returning students who demonstrate financial need. The recipients must be full-time students with good academic standing.

It is hoped that these awards will enable students to continue their studies at Redeemer and encourage them to remain involved with Redeemer, both as students and after graduation. The first RAASAP awards – one scholarship and two bursaries – have been distributed for the 2007-08 academic year. Although administered by the Financial Aid Office, the Board is involved in selecting the award winners.

Funding for RAASAP will be unique:

- » Only alumni will be asked to support this program.
- » Alumni will be approached on an annual basis, normally in May of each year.
- » A portion of the funds that are collected will be applied directly to the awards that are distributed each year.
- » The balance of the funds raised will be deposited into an endowed account. Over time, that fund will generate enough interest so that additional awards will be distributed.

The Board has a broad vision for RAASAP. It sees the number of awards and the value of the award increasing over time. It also strongly endorses RAASAP. As a group, the Alumni Board has committed \$10,000 to "kick-start" RAASAP. Half of that - \$5,000 - has been awarded to this year's RAASAP award winners. The other \$5,000 has been set aside for the start of the endowment which we hope to grow over time.

In the next few weeks, you will receive a brochure inviting you to participate in RAASAP. We hope that you will give generously. It is a tangible way to demonstrate our support to Redeemer and its students.

For more information on RAASAP, please visit [www.redeemer.ca/alumni/support](http://www.redeemer.ca/alumni/support). ■

# Homecoming Marks End of Era



Left: 14 members of the Pioneer Class returned for the Homecoming Celebrations. Back row: Annette Oosterhof Schreuders, Jim DeVries, Wayne Roorda, Bruce Bos, Rose Lip Tamming, Arend Kersten, Redeemer's Director of Just-About-Everything in 1982, Gary Tamming, Susanne Van Arragon-Spronk, Angela Aukema Zondervan, Teresa Luth Groen, Sylvia De Bruyne Taekema. Front Row:

Anita Miedema Broekema, Marlene DeBoer, Anita Driesie, Marlene Luth Van Raay. Graduates of a more recent vintage, Jonathan Mousely and Heather Sinnema '98 (top), and Steve Baarda '94, were also part of Homecoming.

Over 70 alumni, faculty and friends participated in this year's Homecoming, which was planned as a part of Redeemer's 25th Anniversary celebrations on September 29. For many alumni, it was a fitting capstone event to the day, a chance to mingle with old friends and catch up with faculty.

Although Redeemer's Pioneer Class – and faculty – were recognized throughout the dinner, Homecoming gave a glimpse into several eras of Redeemer's history. A number of alumni were invited to share their own experiences of what Redeemer was like when they were attending. From that first class of 97 students, through the years on the Beach campus, the first year at the new campus and through the years of rapid growth, what was striking was not just how much things have changed, but

how much things have remained the same. In particular, each of the speakers noted the sense of community that has always been a part of the Redeemer experience.

Reverend Dr. Henry R. De Bolster, Redeemer's founding President, offered greetings and expressed his appreciation for the commitment that students have made to Redeemer over the years. Dr. Justin Cooper shared with alumni his vision for Redeemer over the next 25 years and Alumni Board President, Sharon Timmerman Vandermeulen, outlined some recent Alumni Board initiatives, including the launch of the Redeemer Alumni Association Student Awards Program (see p. 16).

As Redeemer begins its next quarter-century, the Alumni Association is also looking at the programs it is organizing. After careful consideration at its November

2nd meeting, the Board decided that it would no longer be hosting annual Homecoming celebrations. Alumni Board past-president, Kevin Huinink '98, notes that,

"These types of large, broadly-focused events just don't seem to be attracting the number of alumni that we thought they would. As a Board, we think it's time to reconsider what types of activities better interest and suit alumni."

The Board will be looking to organize events that will be more targeted to specific groups of alumni. Watch upcoming issues of *Images* for more information on these initiatives. ■

## Athletic Fees to be Delayed

Since September, alumni have been charged \$100 for an annual membership fee to Redeemer's Athletic Centre. Following discussions between the Athletic Centre staff and the Alumni Board, that fee will not be charged until September 1, 2008.

A letter has been sent to all alumni who have been affected by this, outlining the decision and providing information on how to obtain a refund for any fees that have been paid this year. The Alumni Office will be providing more information on this in the near future.

We recognize that this decision could have been better communicated. Thank you to those who raised the issue.

# Personal Touch

- » Jeff and Marcia (nee Enzlin) '03 are pleased to announce the arrival of their first child, a son Evyn Jefferey. He arrived on September 29, 2007, weighing 9lbs, 11oz and was 23 inches long. Address: 464989 Curries Rd., Woodstock, ON, N4S 7V8. Email: m\_enzlin@hotmail.com.
- » Simon '06 and Jodi Brink Lievaart '06 are pleased to announce the birth of their first son, Joash Daniel George, born August 25, 2007, in Chatham, ON. Simon is currently in his second year at Mid-America Reformed Seminary in Dyer, Indiana, USA. Email: sjlievaart@hotmail.com.
- » Stephen '95 and Corine Vreugdenhil-Witteveen '96 are thankful to announce the arrival of Avery Saskia Corine Witteveen on August 22, 2007, a little sister to son Maxwell (age 5) and daughter Eden (age 3). Stephen is a partner at his law firm, Pavey, Law, Wannop & Witteveen, LLP, in Cambridge, ON. Corine is currently enjoying her maternity leave from Research In Motion, where she works as a corporate marketing event manager. Address: 209 Main Street, Cambridge, ON, N1R 1X1. Phone: 519. 622.9069. Email: scvw@sympatico.ca.
- » David Speicher '03 is pleased to announce his recent graduation from Griffith University in Brisbane, Australia, with an M.Sc. Honours. He is continuing to do a Ph.D in virology at the School of Dentistry and Oral Health at Griffith University on the Gold Coast. The research will investigate the presence of human herpesvirus-8 in HIV patients in Australia, Kenya and India. HHV-8 has been examined worldwide except in Australia, and hopefully this project will produce a better molecular assay for this virus. Email: d.speicher@griffith.edu.au.
- » Henry and Julie Brown Vos '00 were blessed with their second child, Helena Grace, on December 12, 2006. She is a little sister to Daniel (age 3). Helena is named after Julie's Oma, Helena Van Die (91). Henry and Julie praise God for the wonderful addition to their family. Email: henryandjulievos@sympatico.ca.
- » Justin '05 and Emily Vyvey Anjema were married on June 16, 2007, in Wyoming, ON. Justin graduated recently with his Bachelor of Education from Lakehead University. He is looking for a teaching job in Ontario. Justin and Emily are currently living in Petrolia. Email: tinman1509@hotmail.com.
- » Robert Gagnon '03 would like to correct the email address given in the previous issue of *Images*. The correct hotmail address is Robert\_Gagnon@hotmail.com. He can also be reached at Robert.p.gagnon@gmail.com.
- » Barbara Sjaarda '97 and her husband, Gurdevinder (Dave) Bal, were blessed with the safe arrival of their second child, Daler Singh Bal, on June 2nd, 2007. Big sister Maaika is having fun playing with her little brother. Barbara and Dave are enjoying their parental leaves as officers with the Ottawa Police Service.
- » Laurence and Mary Ann Ypma Stassen '92 are thankful for the blessing of another daughter, Phoebe Asha Stassen. Born November 28, 2006, Phoebe is a sister for Tegan and Nia. Mary Ann is home caring for the girls while Laurence continues to teach at Ottawa Christian School. Address: 5 Arco Way, Ottawa, ON, K2G 0E2. E-mail: mlstassen@rogers.com.
- » Ryan '01 and Hannah Byl Braam '01 are delighted to announce the arrival of Daniel Gerrit on May 16, 2007. He is a little brother for Zachary (age 4) and Janae (age 2). Ryan is currently serving as pastor of Grace CRC in Welland, ON, while Hannah is at home with the children. Email: hrbraam@yahoo.ca.
- » Eric '00 and Marya Van Breda Renkema '01 are excited to announce the birth of their son, Darren Hendrik, on April 3, 2007 – a brother for Evan. Darren arrived 9 weeks early and spent some time in the hospital, but he is growing wonderfully now. They wish to thank everyone for their thoughts and prayers. Address: 66 Andrews Road, Orono, ON, L0B 1M0. Phone: 905.983.1051. Email: ericandmarya@hotmail.com.
- » Eli Jacobus was born October 18th to Stephen '01 and Sarah Weverink-vanBreda '99. He is a brother for Reuben, Nadine and Judah. sarahandstephen@gmail.com.

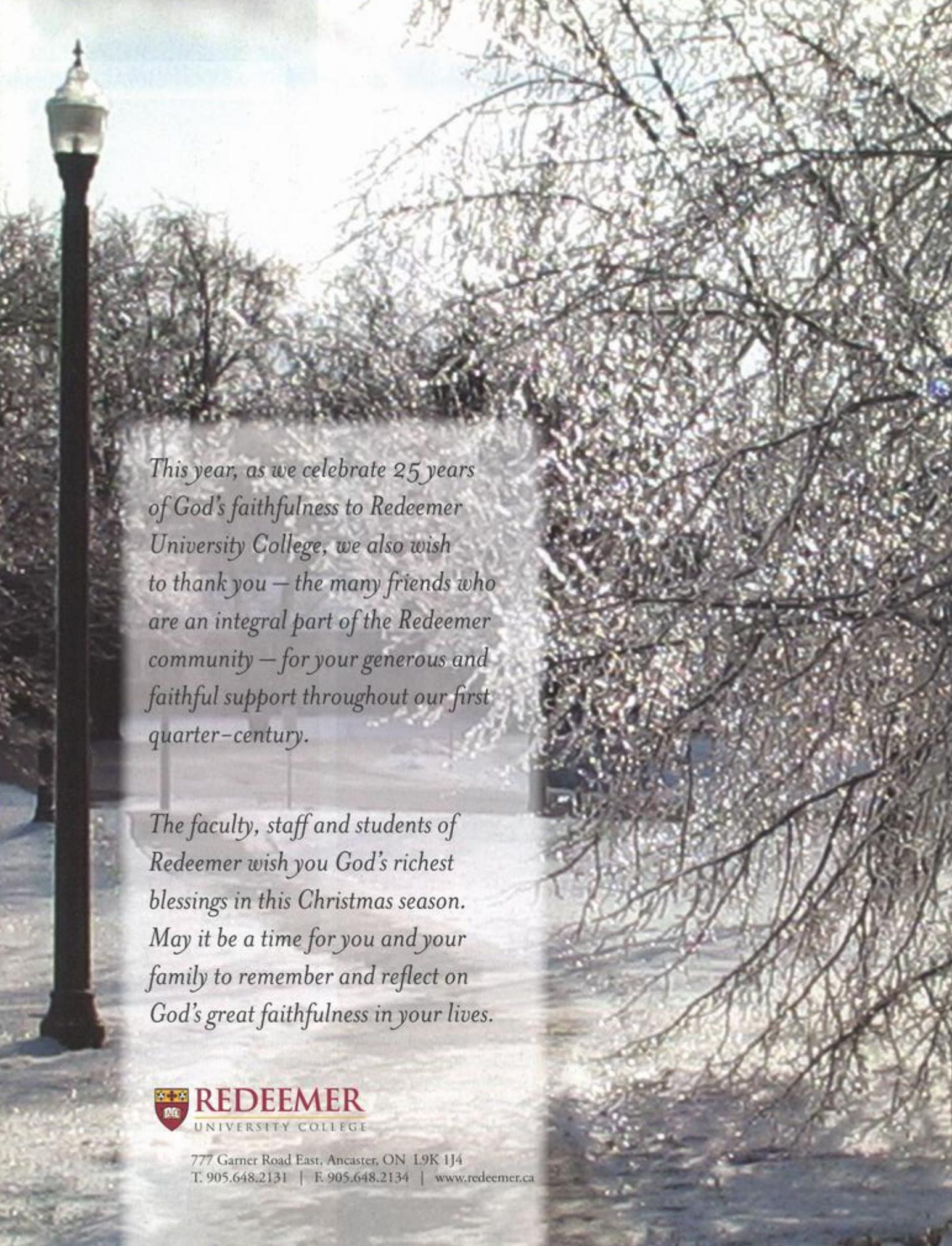
## Want to contribute to Personal Touch?

Alumni are encouraged to forward their news of interest for publication in the Personal Touch column. Marriages, births, job changes, academic accomplishments – whatever your friends and former classmates might be interested in. Please send an email to [alumnioffice@redeemer.ca](mailto:alumnioffice@redeemer.ca), or contribute through the on-line form at [www.redeemer.ca/alumni/submit-a-note.php](http://www.redeemer.ca/alumni/submit-a-note.php).



LASTING IMAGE

This past fall one of Petra Zantingh's senior level art classes was commissioned to design worship banners that reflect the theme of Redeemer's 25th anniversary, "Great is God's faithfulness." The students were encouraged to represent the theme visually, using colours that harmonized the existing colour schemes in the auditorium. Two of the banners designed were used during the 25th anniversary celebration in September. Jimmy Bender, Juliane Konyndyk, Angela Poot and Heather Wonder designed some of the banners that have now become a regular part of our campus worship.



*This year, as we celebrate 25 years  
of God's faithfulness to Redeemer  
University College, we also wish  
to thank you — the many friends who  
are an integral part of the Redeemer  
community — for your generous and  
faithful support throughout our first  
quarter-century.*

*The faculty, staff and students of  
Redeemer wish you God's richest  
blessings in this Christmas season.  
May it be a time for you and your  
family to remember and reflect on  
God's great faithfulness in your lives.*



777 Garner Road East, Ancaster, ON L9K 1J4  
T. 905.648.2131 | F. 905.648.2134 | [www.redeemer.ca](http://www.redeemer.ca)